

Committee Meetings

GRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION ACT; INTERNATIONAL STUDIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION ACT

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Select Education approved for full Committee action, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 3076, Graduate Opportunities in Higher Education Act; and H.R. 3077, International Studies in Higher Education Act.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH SMALL EMPLOYER ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing on H.R. 2731, Occupational Safety and Health Small Employer Access to Justice Act of 2003, Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

INTERNATIONAL CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection held a hearing on the International Consumer Protection Act of 2003. Testimony was heard from Timothy J. Muris, Chairman, FTC; and public witnesses.

SARBANES-OXLEY: ARE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS MORE RELIABLE?

Committee on Financial Services: Held a hearing entitled "Accounting under Sarbanes-Oxley: Are financial statements more reliable?" Testimony was heard from William H. Donaldson, Chairman, SEC; and William J. McDonough, Chairman, Public Company Accounting Oversight Board.

OVERSIGHT—FEDERAL GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION—RECOMMENDATIONS—NATIONAL COMMISSION ON PUBLIC SERVICE

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Civil Service and Agency Organization held an oversight hearing titled "Human Capital Planning: Exploring the National Commission on the Public Service's Recommendations for Reorganizing the Federal Government." Testimony was heard from David M. Walker, Comptroller General, GAO; Clay Johnson III, Deputy Director, Management, OMB; and Paul A. Volcker, Chairman, National Commission on the Public Service.

NATIONAL SUPPLY REDUCTION STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources held a hearing entitled "Implementation of National

Supply Reduction Strategy." Testimony was heard from Barry Crane, Deputy Director, Supply Reduction, Office of National Drug Control Policy.

OVERSIGHT—SECURITY IN SOFTWARE

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and the Census held an oversight hearing titled "Exploring Common Criteria: Can It Ensure That the Federal Government Gets Needed Security in Software?" Testimony was heard from Edward A. Roback, Chief, Computer Security Division, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce; the following officials of the Department of Defense: Michael G. Fleming, Chief, Information Assurance Solutions Group, Information Assurance Directorate, NSA; and Robert G. Gorrie, Deputy Director, Defense-wide Information Assurance Program; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS—MODERN OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held an oversight hearing on "Environmental Aspects of Modern Oil and Gas Development." Testimony was heard from Representative Vitter; Steve Kolian, Environmental Scientist, Department of Environmental Quality, State of Louisiana; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—FOREST SERVICE RECREATION FEE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Forests and Forests Health held an oversight hearing on the Forest Service Recreation Fee Demonstration Program. Testimony was heard from Tom Thompson, Deputy Chief, National Forest System, U.S. Forest Service, USDA; Barry Hill, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, GAO; and public witnesses.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

Committee on Small Business: Held a hearing on National Small Business Week: Small Business Success Stories. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—NATION'S INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held an oversight hearing on Contributions of Ports and Inland Waterways to the Nation's Intermodal Transportation System. Testimony was heard from Norman Y. Mineta, Secretary of Transportation; and the following officials of the Department of the Army: John Paul Woodley, Assistant Secretary (Civil

Works); and Robert B. Flowers, Chief, Corps of Engineers.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to consider pending Committee business.

JOINT INQUIRY RECOMMENDATIONS

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Intelligence Policy and National Security met in executive session to consider recommendations from the Joint Inquiry.

POWER BLACKOUTS IMPLICATIONS— NATION'S CYBERSECURITY AND CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION

Select Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Science, and Research and the Subcommittee on Infrastructure and Border Security concluded joint hearings entitled "Implications of Power Blackouts for the Nation's Cybersecurity and Critical Infrastructure Protection: The Electric Grid, Critical Interdependencies, Vulnerabilities, and Readiness." Testimony was heard from Robert Liscouski, Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure Protection Directorate, Department of Homeland Security; Denise Swink, Acting Director, Office of Energy Assurance, Department of Energy; Robert F. Dacey, Director, Information Security, GAO; and Col. Michael McDaniel, Assistant Adjutant General, Homeland Security, State of Michigan.

Joint Meetings

CHECHNYA

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission): on Tuesday, September 16, 2003, Commission concluded a hearing to examine the current situation and future of Chechnya, after receiving testimony from Steven Pifer, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs; Lord Frank Judd, Member of the British House of Lords, London, United Kingdom, former Co-Chairman, Council of Europe-Duma Parliamentary Working Group on Chechnya; and Robert Bruce Ware, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale; and Anna Politkovskaya, Moscow, Russia.

HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT

Conferees agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate and House passed

versions of H.R. 2555, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT

Conferees agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 2657, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004.

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT

Conferees met in closed session and agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 2658, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2003

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold a closed briefing on ongoing military operations and areas of key concern around the world, 10:30 a.m., SR-222.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Government Reform, to consider the following: H. Con. Res. 106, recognizing and honoring America's Jewish community on the occasion of its 350th anniversary, supporting the designation of an "American Jewish History Month;" H. Con. Res. 270, supporting the goals and ideals of College Savings Month; H. Res. 357, Honoring the life and legacy of Bob Hope; H.R. 2075, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Services located at 1905 West Blue Heron Boulevard in West Palm Beach, Florida, as the "Judge Edward Rodgers Post Office Building;" H.R. 2533, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10701 Abercorn Street in Savannah, Georgia, as the "J.C. Lewis, Jr. Post Office Building;" and H.E. 3068, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2055 Siesta Drive in Sarasota, Florida, as the "Brigadier General (AUS-Ret.) John H. McLain Post Office," followed by a hearing titled "What Happened to GPRA? A Retrospective Look At Government Performance and Results," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.